

"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord, and of Gideon." Judges 7:20

The SWORD of the LORD

Edited by JOHN R. RICE.

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God's Covenant with Abraham

His Seed to Possess Canaan Forever

BY EVANGELIST JOHN R. RICE

One of the earliest great promises which has not yet been fulfilled is the promise that the people Israel is to possess the land of Canaan for an everlasting possession.

In Genesis 12:1-3 we are told that Abraham was called out from his country in Ur of the Chaldees, away from his kinspeople and relatives, to a land that the Lord would show him, the land of Canaan. With that call, God had given Abraham this great promise in Genesis 12:2-3; "And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: 3. And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed."

God there selected Abraham and his descendants to form a great nation through which He would bless the world. All the Bible, except the first eleven chapters, reminds us again and again that the nation

Israel has been called and selected of God to be a blessing to the whole world.

After God called Abraham to the land of Canaan, the land itself was given to Abraham. That in itself would not seem so remarkable, but with the gift, went an everlasting promise that all the land would be given, not only to Abraham, but TO HIS SEED FOREVER! Read Genesis 13:14-15 which says: "And the Lord said unto Abraham, after that Lot was separated from him, Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward: 15. For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever."

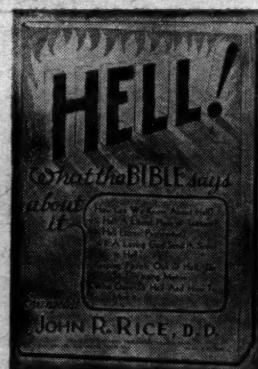
The land of Palestine has been given, unconditionally to Israelites, to Abraham and the descendants of Abraham, for an everlasting possession.

In fact, that term "an everlasting possession" is exactly what God said to Abraham when He mentioned the matter again in Genesis 17:8: "And I will give unto thee, and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession: and I will be their God."

Did you notice in reading the above verse that God said "all the land of Canaan"? It is the literal land, Canaan, which was promised to Abraham. It is ALL of the land of Canaan, also. Its proper boundaries are mentioned in the first

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Still Free!



This pamphlet, HELL: WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT IT has 40 large pages, size 5 1/4 x 7 1/2 inches, six chapters of plain Bible teaching and fervent evangelistic preaching on Hell. The first twenty thousand of this edition, printed in November, are nearly gone, and we are ordering another twenty thousand copies. We want you to have one, and you may have it absolutely free, without obligation, if you will write for it. It stirs the hearts of Christians, has proven a great stimulant to preachers and soul-winners, and has led a number of souls to trust Christ. Address Evangelist John R. Rice, 145 North Hale Street, Wheaton, Illinois.

At the same time, you can help me, with little trouble and no expense, if you will be so kind. I want thousands of names and addresses of earnest Christians, pastors and Christian workers to whom I may send samples of the *Sword of the Lord*, names of people who would likely subscribe to such an evangelistic, Bible teaching weekly. We know thousands would be blessed, would gladly subscribe, if they knew about this, America's leading evangelistic weekly, publishing full length messages by America's best soul-winners. Send five names and full, correct addresses, please, or more if you can, when you write us. Will you do us that favor? But the book on Hell is free, whether you send names or not. Get yours as soon as possible, and help us get out the gospel, in Jesus' dear name. Perhaps you will recommend this paper to others, and see that they get sample copies.

59 IN 3 WEEKS

Many Saved Through "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" Booklets

BY JOHN L. BRAY
Assistant to the Editor

During the last three weeks we have received word from fifty-nine people who have said they were saved through Dr. Rice's little booklet, "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" Forty-six of these were decision slips sent to us by Mrs. R. D. Hazlett, one of the Bible teachers in the public schools of Chattanooga, Tennessee, and were signed by young people there, as reported in the February 19 issue of *The Sword of the Lord*.

Mrs. Nellie Barnard, of Clarksville, Tennessee, wrote saying, "Some months ago I borrowed a little book from a neighbor called "What Must I Do to Be Saved" that you have put out. I sat down and read it to my little girl twelve years old and she was gloriously saved before I got it read through. I can never tell you how much I appreciate what it meant to us. May God richly bless every one as He has the one I read."

(Here is a suggestion for mothers who have unsaved children, and to S. S. teachers who have unsaved pupils. Take a copy of the booklet, "What Must I Do to Be Saved," and read it to them prayerfully, pray that God will use it to their salvation and then urge them to definitely accept Christ and confess Him openly.)

Mr. F. S. in Philadelphia, writes us that he gave one of the little booklets to a college student, and said, "He saw his need of Christ as his own personal Saviour and I believe he made his decision after reading your booklet."

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'NOT ASHAMED OF THE GOSPEL'

BY EVANGELIST CHARLES E. FULLER

— ROMANS 1:16

(Sermon preached on Old Fashioned Revival Hour Broadcast, January 3, 1943. Mechanically recorded for *The Sword of the Lord* by special arrangement and permission. Not to be reprinted without credit to this paper.)

Romans 1:14, "I am debtor both to the Greeks, and to the Barbarians; both to the wise, and to the unwise. So, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also. For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. For therein" — that is, in the gospel — "is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith. For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness." May we bow our heads in a moment of prayer.

We're coming to Thy Word, Heavenly Father. Heaven and earth may pass away but Thy Word will never pass away. The entrance of this Word giveth light. As we study Paul's boldness, how he was debtor, a steward to get out that gospel, not ashamed of that gospel, wilt Thou breathe into every member of the Body of Christ that same boldness, not to be ashamed of the gospel but to proclaim the unsearchable riches of Christ and to beseech men and women everywhere to be reconciled to Thee through Jesus Christ. For we ask it in His name. Amen.

Already in chapter 1 of Romans

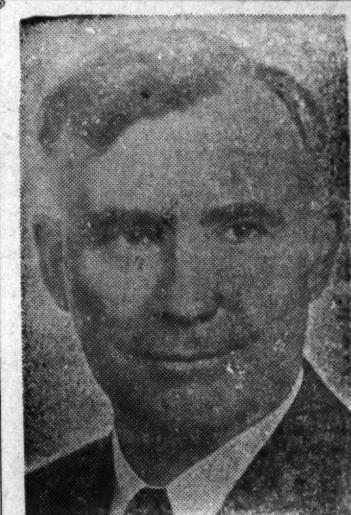
we have learned much about Paul and the gospel. We have learned that he loved to call himself a bond-slave, that he was a called apostle, separated unto the gospel of God. We found also that that gospel of God's good news concerned His Son. Furthermore we learned that Paul was a man of thanksgiving and a man of much prayer, praying for a prosperous journey in the will of God; and how marvelously God answered that prayer and gave him a prosperous journey even though it was a perilous journey as a prisoner of the Lord Jesus Christ! And now we learn further just two things in verses 14 and 16. Paul was debtor, and he was not ashamed of the gospel.

Now just a simple message, I have been praying much that God would use the message to stir you up, fellow pilgrims and fellow debtors, that you might be more faithful in your ministry and not ashamed to proclaim the unsearchable riches of Christ.

Introduction: Paul Was a Debtor to Preach the Gospel

"I am debtor both to the Greeks and to the Barbarians, both to the wise and to the unwise," v. 14. Now this word *debtor* carries with it the thought of stewardship. A steward is one who is an overseer, a manager of an estate, if you please, according to the Biblical meaning. Now when Christ died, He entered in or left with us the new covenant. He left us a rich estate, the gospel of Jesus Christ and all the riches contained therein. And after He died He appointed, chose, Paul to be an overseer, manager, steward, of that estate. And he was a chosen vessel and how marvelously God used him.

Now in I Corinthians the fourth chapter, we learn the outstanding mark of a steward. I'm going to



REV. CHAS E. FULLER

read it to you right out of God's Word. "Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover it is required in a steward" — or in stewards — "that a man be found faithful." Now that's the outstanding characteristic; God is looking for faithfulness. And was Paul faithful in his ministry? Well, I won't have time to read much of it, but if you would just like to turn with me to II Corinthians the eleventh chapter, verse 24, we will see just a quick résumé of Paul's life in being faithful as a steward of that gospel. Notice he said, "Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one. Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep; in journeys often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen," and so forth. And he goes on there and (Continued on page two)

The Bible Has Had Many Enemies

BY ROBT G. LEE, D.D., L.L.D., LITT.D.
Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tennessee

Philosophers have tried to drown it in the muddy waters of their philosophy and ignorance. The archaeologist with his crowbar, the geologist with his hammer, the physicist with his battery — all these have fought against the Book. Some scientists and astronomers lifted up haughty mouths, "darkening counsel with words without wisdom" against the Book. The dissecting knives of theological anatomists have cut at its milk veins. Inexorable censors have sat, like Jehoiakim before the fireplace in his summer house, Bible on knee, penknife in hand, calmly mutilating the only reliable franchise of our Christian hopes. Snipers, some from behind pulpit stands, some behind college chairs, are accustomed to aim ill-grounded propositions against the Scriptures.

The open and avowed leaders of infidelity are gone. Bradlaugh of England and Ingersoll of America were the last of the Old Guard. Now open warfare has given away to subtle strategy. The troops of Ulysses are no longer hurled against the walls of Troy. It is the

enemy in the belly of the wooden horse that we must watch out for today. The Trojan horse, in some places, has been wheeled within the walls of the churches themselves. A body of militant critics, many of them wearing the sacred garb of theological professors and ministers of the gospel, have been attempting to draw the bolts of the citadel.

Diocletian tried to exterminate the Book in the third century. Celsus tried to undermine the message. The astute Porphyry hurled his venomous shafts. Hume, with rare subtlety, wielded cogent weapons. He said, "Methinks I see the twilight of Christianity!" He mistook the sunrise for the sunset. He thought was twilight deepening into midnight was sunshine growing into a dazzling noonday. Voltaire flung his arrows tipped with fire at the Book. Tom Paine tried to drown it in infidel ink. Ingersoll flung quiver full after quiver full of arrows of scorn and jeers and sneers at it.

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God's Covenant with Abraham

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of Joshua. And not only a few Jews are in the land of Canaan at all, and they certainly do not possess it, own it and rule over it as was promised.

The Promise Must be Fulfilled to Abraham in Person

In both the Scriptures mentioned above the land of Canaan is promised to Abraham himself, in person, as well as to his descendants. Genesis 13:15 says, "TO THEE will I give it, and to thy seed for ever." Genesis 17:8 says, "And I will give UNTO THEE, and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession." The promise is not just that some day the descendants of Abraham would take possession of the land of Canaan, but that he himself would be present and in possession.

Jews in past generations have possessed the land of Canaan. In Joshua 21:43-45 we are told how Israelites under Joshua possessed the land. "And the Lord gave unto Israel all the land which he sware to give unto their fathers, and they possessed it, and dwelt therein. 44. And the Lord gave them rest round about, according to all that he sware unto their fathers; and there stood not a man of all their enemies before them; the Lord delivered all their enemies into their hand. 45. There failed not ought of any good thing which the Lord had spoken unto the house of Israel; all came to pass."—Joshua 21:43-45.

There are at least two important things in the promise to Abraham which were not fulfilled when the nation Israel took possession of the land of Canaan. One thing is that Abraham himself did not have possession. The promise was primarily to him. He never had before that time and did not then, possess the land. God did not say to Abraham, "Unto thee THROUGH thy seed I will give the land." But He did say, "Unto thee AND thy seed." That was not fulfilled when Israel took the land under Joshua's leadership.

Another part of the promise clearly was not fulfilled. That is, the possession was to be eternal. It was to be "an everlasting possession." That was not fulfilled when the nation Israel conquered the land of Canaan. Individuals died and did not possess it forever and eventually the whole nation was scattered and lost national possession of the land. The covenant to Abraham was not fulfilled at that time.

Read Joshua 21:43 again carefully and that verse plainly indicates that the covenant was not fulfilled. The Lord simply gave unto Israel, "The land which he sware to give UNTO THEIR FATHERS." Joshua 21:45 says: "There failed not ought of any good thing which the Lord had spoken unto the house of Israel; all came to pass."

Does that mean that God had fulfilled all he had promised ever to do for Israel? Does it mean that the kingdom of David, foretold in Deuteronomy 17:14-20, had been fulfilled? Certainly not. Did it mean that the promise of the Saviour, which promise was given particularly to that nation in Deuteronomy 18:15, has been fulfilled? Certainly not. Did it mean that a TEMPORARY possession of the land of Canaan by Jews of that generation fulfilled the promise of ETERNAL possession by Abraham and his seed? CERTAINLY NOT! Joshua 21:45 simply states that God had kept all His promises up

to date, having done at that time and to that people all that He had promised to do at that time to that people. None of God's promises had failed.

And if God's promises up to that date had not failed and if His promises to us up to date have not failed, can we not surely expect that of His promise to Abraham and his seed not one good thing shall fail? God keeps His promises?

The promise about eternal possession of the land was to Abraham in person as well as his seed, and when it is fulfilled the possession will continue forever.

How Long Does "Forever" Mean?

The Bible ought to be taken at face value. God's Word means what it says. God promised Abraham "for all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed FOREVER." Again He promised Abraham "all the land of Canaan, for an EVERLASTING possession." The only honest and safe way to interpret these statements is not to interpret them at all, but simply take them at face value. The word forever means forever. The word everlasting means everlasting. Do not explain away the Scriptures. The Hebrew word "olam" translated "forever" in Genesis 13:15 is the same word translated "forever" in II Samuel 7:26 when David said "let thy name be magnified for ever." It is the same word translated "forever" in Psalms 66:7, "He ruleth by his power for ever." If God's name would be magnified forever, and if He is to rule by his power forever, then Abraham, in person, and his seed are to possess the land of Canaan forever. Many other examples could be given showing that it means in the original Hebrew just what it is translated to mean in English. Forever means forever, and that is how long Abraham and his seed are to inhabit Canaan!

God's Promise to Abraham is Yet to be Fulfilled

In the above promises, God said to Abraham about the land of Canaan, "To thee WILL I give it, and to thy seed forever" (Gen. 13:15), and again in Genesis 17:8, the Lord said, "I WILL give unto thee, and to thy seed," etc. Notice that in each case the Lord used the future tense, "I Will." The promises are for the future. Abraham never expected in his first and natural life on this earth to possess all the land of Canaan. Hebrews 11:8 makes clear that Abraham was not promised IMMEDIATE possession of the land, but was called to a land which he should AFTERWARDS inherit. With this in mind, read carefully Hebrews 11:8-13 as follows: "By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he SHOULD AFTER RECEIVE FOR AN INHERITANCE obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went. 9. By faith he sojourned in the LAND OF PROMISE, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the HEIRS with him of the same promise: 10. For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God. 11. Through faith also Sarah herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised. 12. Therefore sprang there even of one, and him as good as dead, so many as the stars of the sky in multitude, and as the sand which is by the sea shore innumerable. 13. THESE ALL DIED IN FAITH, NOT HAVING RECEIVED THE PROMISES, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth."—Hebrews 11:8-13.

Abraham Isaac and Jacob, with Sarah were sojourners in the land which God had promised to give them in the future, but which they had not yet received. Later all of the Jewish nation, who by faith became heirs of the same promise, "as the sand which is by the sea shore innumerable" verse 13 tells us, died in faith, not having received the promises but having embraced them by faith. Evidently all the saved Israelites down to the time the book of Hebrews was written were heirs of this promise, but had not received it. Down to the time of Christ, then, the promises to Abraham, that the land of

Canaan should be given to him and his children for an everlasting possession had not been fulfilled! The promise that Israel is to possess the land of Canaan forever is yet in the future.

Stephen said Abraham had not Yet Inherited Canaan

In that wonderful sermon by the Spirit-filled Stephen in Acts, chapter 7, we are told plainly that God called Abraham out of Mesopotamia, into the land of Canaan, but while Abraham lived there, God did not let him inherit it as his own. In Acts 7: 5 he tells us about Abraham: "And he gave him none inheritance in it, no, not so much as to set his foot on: yet he promised that he would give it to him for a possession, and to his seed after him, when as yet he had no child."

Abraham did not inherit the land of Canaan, "not so much as to set his foot on." Let no one claim that promise to Abraham has been fulfilled for it has not.

Literal, Physical Possession of Canaan Promised to Abraham and Christ Together

The passage about surely must have convinced you that the promise to Abraham of eternal possession of the land of Palestine has not yet been fulfilled. Abraham died, the Scripture says, "not having received the promises" (Hebrews 11:13) having no inheritance in the land of Canaan, as yet, "No, not so much as to set his foot on" (Acts 7:5). That physical inheritance of the land of Canaan by Abraham is future.

But here is another happy teaching of the Scripture in these same promises to Abraham; Christ Himself is to inherit, with Abraham, the physical land of Canaan. Genesis 13:15 says: "For all the land which thou seest, TO THEE will I give it, AND TO THY SEED for their God."

Those promises concerning Abraham's seed are taken to mean the nation Israel, or at least those who by faith are the children of promise (Gen. 21:12, Gal. 3:29). God says, "I will be their God," so that indicates the plural seed of Abraham. Converted Israel will inherit Palestine with Abraham.

But Christ is Abraham's seed, to Whom the promises about inheriting Canaan was given with Abraham. Galatians 3:16 shows that God had in mind that Christ, Abraham's Seed should inherit the land of Palestine forever with Abraham.

"Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as many; but as of one, and to thy seed, which is Christ."—Galatians 3:16.

The New Testament adds further revelation to the Old. Abraham's seed may refer to Israel, but it certainly refers to Christ, we are here told. The promise to Abraham will be fulfilled and he will inherit the land. Likewise the promise to Christ will be fulfilled and He will inherit that land of Canaan. This proves two important facts. First, that Christ will have a literal reign on earth, and second, that this reign is future.

Christ has not yet Inherited Canaan as a Possession

Abraham lived in the land of Canaan, but did not possess it. So Christ lived in the land of Canaan but did not possess it. Abraham was a stranger and a sojourner in the land of promise, but we are told, did not inherit, or come into actual possession of as much as to set foot upon (Acts 7:5). If that were true about Abraham with his riches in gold, silver, cattle, and servants (Gen. 13:2), it was even more true about Christ in His earthly life. Jesus was born, and laid in a borrowed manger, crucified and laid in a borrowed grave. Between those events, He Himself told us that "The foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head."—Matt. 8:20.

Jesus did not possess the land of Canaan for an inheritance.

The term "possession" used in the promise to Abraham is clearly defined by the circumstances,

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enumerates the many trials and tests that he went through. But yet through it all he was found faithful.

Now a man doesn't usually suffer for something that is untrue. But God committed to him this great ministry of reconciliation through His beloved Son, and Paul was found faithful. Now he said, "I am debtor both to the Greeks" — that is, to the cultured — "and to the Barbarians" — those who did not know the Greek language — "both to the wise, and to the unwise." In that stewardship we find that besides being faithful, he was not ashamed of the gospel! Well, let's put Paul to the test and see if he was ever unfaithful or ever ashamed of the gospel of Christ. Let's just quickly go through some of the incidents that we find recorded about Paul in the book of Acts.

Not Ashamed Immediately After Conversion

Now this is where we learn much of the Scripture, by comparing Scripture with Scripture. We are told right after his conversion there in the 9th chapter of Acts, verse 20, when he was in Damascus, straightway he preached Christ in the synagogue that He is the Son of God! Not only was he a man of prayer, but straightway right after his conversion he preached Christ. He didn't go out and preach a lot of fool philosophy and a lot of things about religious things, but he preached Christ and that He is the Son of God. My, how he preached, and preached without rear or favor!

Well, you turn with me to the thirteenth chapter of the book of Acts, and we see here some remarkable things, how right after being called by the Holy Spirit, verse 2 of the thirteenth of Acts, "As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Spirit said" — Now He is a person; He is not an influence; He is the third person of the Trinity — "the Holy Spirit said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them." God forbid, fel-

when we are told that Abraham did not receive these promises during his lifetime. That proves it is a literal ownership and control, living on the land, which is promised to Abraham and so, physically to Christ. What the promise meant about Abraham, it also means about Christ. If we cannot make the promise figurative with regard to Abraham, then it is not figurative about Christ. If Abraham was to have even more literal possession of the land than he had while here on earth before the promise was fulfilled, then Christ must have even more literal possession of the land than Abraham did before the promise to Him is fulfilled. It will not do then, to explain away this Scripture and say that in some spiritual sense, Christ in Heaven has already inherited Canaan. No, not until He has more literal control of it, and more literal possession of it than Abraham had, can Christ be said to have inherited the land of Canaan. The promise has not yet been fulfilled, but is for the future when Christ shall reign over the land of Canaan after His return to the earth.

In fact, if there is any land on this earth which Christ does not actually, literally possess, it is Palestine, and if there is any people on earth who have rejected Him as King, it is Abraham's seed, the Jews.

Surely your heart ought to be happy to realize that when Abraham comes back to possess the land, promised to him as an everlasting possession, Christ will also possess that land.

God plainly told Abraham that his descendants would be carried down into Egypt for four hundred years (Gen. 15:13). The children of Israel later must have known that they would not at that time have an unbroken period of actual possession of the land of Canaan, since the Lord had plainly told them in Deuteronomy 28:63-68 that the nation would be scattered out into all the world because of their sins. All of them understand and believed that.

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low preacher in the work, if you are not Holy Spirit-called! "And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away." And Paul begins his missionary journeys going out throughout that land on three separate journeys.

Not Ashamed When Met by Opposition

Now, he met every kind of testing. Not only did he meet the leading men of the government and high in the rank of government officials but he was there speaking to them. And we find him meeting tests under Satan inspired emissaries. We find him facing tests of the flesh. But throughout all of his tests we find Paul not ashamed of the gospel of Christ. Beginning there at the sixth verse of the thirteenth chapter of Acts "And when they had gone through the isle unto Paphos, they found a certain sorcerer, a false prophet, a Jew, whose name was Bar-jesus." Now I want you to notice what Paul does. He calls a spade a spade and he wasn't afraid to pull things right out into the open and lay them bare. "Which was a deputy of the country, Sergius Paulus, a prudent man; who called for Barnabas and Saul, and desired to hear the word of God. But Elymas the sorcerer (for so is his name by interpretation) withstood them, seeking to turn away the deputy from the faith. Then Saul . . . filled with the Holy Spirit, set his eyes on him and said, O full of all subtlety and all mischief, thou child of the devil!"—Pretty plain speaking, isn't it? And I want to say to you, friend of mine, if you are not saved, Satan is your father and you are a child of the devil! That's plain preaching and I mean it and I want you to wake up because you are headed for a place of eternal torment and separation! Oh, notice, "Thou child of the devil, thou enemy of all righteousness, wilt thou not cease to pervert the right ways of the Lord?" And here Paul calls it right out and he calls a spade a spade.

Not Ashamed to Preach Justification by Faith

Notice there in verses 38 to 41 of that same chapter, when he began to preach in Antioch, he is not ashamed of the Gospel! I have not time to read all of the verses in between, but there at the thirty-eighth verse he says, "Be it known unto you therefore, men and brethren, that through this man (Christ) is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins: And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses." And Paul laid down the foundation of principles of this new covenant, this estate of the gospel, which is justification by faith, for, "Cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them." But, "Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us; for it is written, Cursed it every one that hangeth on a tree." And beloved friends of mine, the foundational principle of this age of grace is justification by faith. "By him all that believe are justified from all things from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses." No wonder when he wrote to the Galatian people, he said, "I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ," and he goes on and he defends the gospel of the grace of the Son of God for ye are saved by grace, not of works, lest any man should boast.

Not Ashamed Before Idolaters

Now take your Bible and turn to the fourteenth chapter of Acts. Let's go a little bit further and see if Paul was ever ashamed of the gospel. Beginning there at the eighth verse of the fourteenth of Acts, we find that "There sat a certain man at Lystra, impotent in his feet, being a cripple from his mother's womb, who never had walked: The same heard Paul speak: who steadfastly beholding him, and perceiving that he had faith to be healed, said with a loud voice, Stand upright on thy feet. And he leaped and walked. And when the people saw what Paul had done, they lifted up their voices, saying in the speech of Lycaonia, The gods are come down to us in the likeness of men." They (Continued on page three)

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wanted to worship Paul and his companions, a test of the flesh if you please. There in the fifteenth verse this is what Paul replied: "Sirs, why do ye these things? We also are men of like passions with you, and preach unto you that ye should turn from these vanities unto the living God, which made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all things that are therein." They had a chance to put themselves up as emissaries from Heaven, God-beings, angels from Heaven, and they passed that test and they stood true and said, "I'm not ashamed of the gospel of Christ."

Not Ashamed to Suffer Persecution

Well, what did it cost Paul? Look down to the nineteenth verse, will you? "And there came thither certain Jews from Antioch and Iconium, who persuaded the people, and, having stoned Paul, drew him out of the city, supposing he had been dead." That's what it cost Paul to be true to the gospel of the grace of the Son of God, justification by faith!

Not Ashamed Before the "Money Bunch"

Let's go to the sixteenth chapter of Acts beginning at the sixteenth verse and let's see another occasion. Was Paul a good steward? Was he faithful? Was he ashamed of the gospel of Christ? "And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying: 'He's coming up against the money bunch, if you please!'" The same followed Paul . . . saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation. And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour." Now, "when her masters saw that the hope of their gains was gone, they caught Paul and Silas, and drew them into the market place unto the rulers" — and what happened? They were put into jail and into the inner cell of that jail. And at midnight they prayed. Instead of complaining and wondering whether they could get in touch with the district attorney and pull wires, they prayed. Instead of pulling wires, they pulled the greatest wire; they prayed. And suddenly there was a great earthquake. You know the story, how that Philipian jailer came and cast himself down at their feet wanting to kill himself, and Paul said unto him, "Don't do that!" And then he said, "What must I do to be saved?" And he said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved!" Oh, listen, under all circumstances, under all kinds of trials, Paul was true to the gospel and he preached the gospel.

Some time ago — I will not enter into the details of it — but I was asked to speak before a certain earthly organization that is considered very high ranking in the eyes of the world. I said, "Now, listen. You want me to come, do you, and speak to you?" "Yes, we want you to come." I said, "I'll come on one condition, that I preach the Word of God and preach the gospel." And before that crowd of some 300 bankers and leading men of a certain state I stood up and as a simple ambassador of the Lord Jesus Christ I told them they were lost and Hell-bound and on the way to eternal separation unless they accepted Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour. I cannot afford to waste a minute! I have not enough time to preach the gospel and I'm not going to get up and tickle people's ears and make them feel good, and leave out the blood-sprinkled way. Do you agree with me? Amen. I tell you we haven't time. God said to "Occupy till I come," until Jesus comes.

Not Ashamed Before the Intellectual

Notice the seventeenth chapter, verse 16. Paul was at Athens. I wish we had time to go into that chapter there; but my, there before that intellectual bunch of philosophers and fellows that had degrees after their names about a foot long, here's what he told them; he said — thirty-first verse — "God

hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead."

Not Ashamed at Corinth

And then when he appeared there before the people at Corinth in the eighteenth chapter, you read I Corinthians the second chapter and see how Paul came before that group in fear and trembling, not with enticing words of men's wisdom but in demonstration of the power of the Holy Spirit and he preached Christ!

Not Ashamed Before the Governor

Now I'll only have time to drop down to the twenty-fourth chapter of Acts. My, there's much intervening, but I want you to see it here, the tenth verse of the twenty-fourth of Acts. Paul was up before the governor, the high officials of the Roman government if you please! "Then Paul, after that the governor had beckoned unto him to speak, answered, 'and my, he gives a marvelous defence! And then a little later he came in before Felix again, and Felix was living in sin and Paul knew it. After certain days, when Felix came with his wife Drusilla" — who wasn't his lawful wife — "he sent for Paul, and heard him concerning the faith in Christ. And as he reasoned," — now notice Paul standing up before those leaders, wealthy, rich, powerful leaders of the Roman government, — "as he reasoned of righteousness, temperance and judgment to come, Felix trembled, and answered, Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee."

Not Ashamed Before King Agrippa

Then in the twenty-sixth chapter of Acts, there before Agrippa — my, how much intervenes! — we find him in that chapter pleading with Agrippa, verses 27 to 29. How he preached and told Agrippa that Christ should suffer, that he should be buried and rise again from the dead. And then he said, "King Agrippa, believest thou the prophets? I know that thou believest. Then Agrippa said unto Paul, Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian. And Paul said, I would to God, that not only thou, but also all that hear me this day, were both almost, and altogether such as I am, except these bonds." In other words, that they were all Christians.

Conclusion

I love those words when it says that he went unto a certain city and preached Christ and he preached the gospel. And that's the heart of the Old Fashioned Revival Hour. You're lost without hope, without God, without Christ, dead in trespasses and sins, disobedient, and deserving of wrath to come. You're lost for eternity if you will not accept Christ as your personal Saviour, and you shall die in your sins, and whether Christ is you cannot go. I would not leave this broadcast without beseeching you, friend of mine, wherever you may be, in the isles of the seven seas, in Alaska, in South America, in the old country, wherever you hear my voice; I beseech you, therefore, to be reconciled to God through Jesus Christ. I'm presenting to you the Christ of Glory who is standing at your heart's door saying, "Behold, I stand at the door and knock: if any man hear my voice and open the door, I will come in." And thank God for faithful Paul who was a faithful steward, a manager of this new dispensation of the gospel of the grace of the Son of God, not ashamed before the high officials, before the low, before the Barbarians, before the Greeks, before the wise and the unwise, to preach Christ! how that Christ died for our sins, was buried and rose again the third day according to the Scriptures. And when he came to the end of life's race, what did he say? I have kept the faith, I have fought good fight, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, I delivered God's message! And I'd rather have that said of me if I pass off of this scene and depart to be with Christ — I'd rather have it said of me that I stood true to the gospel of the grace of the Son of God and told men straight from His name. Amen.

The Bible Has Had Many Enemies

(Continued from page one)

But the Book lives on. He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh at those who think they destroy his Word and its triumphs. Voltaire cut not one twig from its great forests. Paine drowned not one page in infidel ink. Ingersoll, with intent to kill, shortened not its life by one hour. Diocletian broke not one string on its harp of ten thousand strings. Agnostics who kindled their bonfires upon it burned not away one thread of its garments. Atheists have not been able to steal one flower from its gorgeous flower gardens. Unbelieving scientists, with microscope and telescope and test tube, have not been able to dilute one drop of its sweetness. Theological smokescreens who have tried to hide in clouds and thick darkness the Cross and the Blood and the empty tomb in Joseph's garden have not been able to invert its torch or to quench one ray of its light. Still it is our "pillar of fire" among all books. Not one jot or tittle of its moral code has perished in the last century. Isaac Newton said: "If all the great books of the world were given life and were brought together in convention, the moment the Bible entered, the other books would fall on their faces, as the gods of Philistia fell when the ark of God was brought into their presence in the temple of Dagon."

Today the Bible, in the face of all enmity and hatred, all criticism and antagonism, is still the Book that opens with crystal waters for our thirst when we travel "the dry and dusty highways where no water is." This Book has traveled and does travel, up and down more highways and byways and knocks now at more doors and speaks to more people in their mother tongue than any book, having been translated into approximately one thousand different languages.

"Last eve I stood beside a blacksmith's door,
And heard the anvil ring the vesper chime;
Then walking in, I saw upon the floor,
Old hammers worn by beating years of time!
"How many anvils have you had?" said I,
"To beat and shatter all these hammers so?"
"Just one," he said; then with twinkling eye,
"The anvil wears the hammers out, you know!"
"And so I thought the anvil of God's Word
For ages skeptic blows have rained upon;
Yet, though the noise of falling blows was heard,
The anvil is unharmed, the hammers gone!"

The Book a thousand times has proved itself indifferent to faint praise or violent denunciation — a Book which defies the critic, convinces the intellect, inspires awe, compels faith, demands worship. Though Nineveh with her pride is now a dirty doormat for irreverent feet, the Book lives on. Though Babylon is now a nesting place for owls, the Book lives on. Though Rome with her power is now a branchless tree dishonorably fruitless, the Book lives on. Though Greece with her culture and art is now a crumb in history's rubbish heap, the Book lives on. Though Spain with her pomp is now a drowsy beggar watching a broken clock, the Book lives on. Though Egypt with her wealth is now a shabby sexton of splendid tombs, the Book lives on.

—From First Baptist Messenger

Little Rock, Ark.

The Bible where they were headed for, headed for eternal separation outside of Christ. But in Christ your citizenship is in Heaven! Let us pray.

Oh, Father, I plead in Jesus' name that Thou wilt check up men of high rank and low rank, intellectual or not intellectual, and bring them right up to the Cross that they may see that their sins were laid upon Jesus as their sin-bearer, and now they can be justified by faith and have peace with God on the grounds of unmerited favor by grace! For we ask it in His name. Amen.

Third Rice Brother Available for Revival Preaching

There are five Rice Brothers in the editor's family. Jesse, the elder brother, is a farmer near Burk Burnett, Texas. The editor is the second oldest brother. George, the third brother, works for the government in Texas. Joe, the fourth brother, is pastor of the Baptist Church at Charleston, Illinois. Bill, the "baby brother," is Evangelist William H. Rice, who, with his singer, Chelsea Stockwell, is doing fine work in revivals and is being kept busy and has won hundreds of souls in the last few months since he went into this important work. His home is at 314 Naperville Street, Wheaton.

But this note is about brother number three, Rev. Joe B. Rice, mentioned above. He is pastor at Charleston, Illinois, but I have long felt that he should give some time to evangelistic work, and have asked him if he were available for some campaigns. He says that he can take away from his pastorate for some meetings, and I hope pastors wanting revival help will feel free to ask for him as they feel led, as I think he is fitted for the work and God uses him to win souls. There are so many calls for an evangelist who is capable of conducting soul-winning campaigns that I mention him.

Joe is a graduate of Moody Bible Institute, was a successful pastor at Sherman, Texas, and the assistant pastor with the editor at Galilean Baptist Church, Dallas. He is a tender, fervent, humble preacher, greatly loved and respected by those who hear him. His doctrinal position is the same as mine, he is not commercial. He knows how to win souls and has a passion and burden for them. In a single Arizona revival service, as I recall, he had nearly fifty professions of faith.

His address is 914 "D" Street, Charleston, Illinois.

ers and all who love the Lord are the many scripture references concerning prayer that are contained in it; and they are presented in such a way as to bring out with the greatest of clarity this whole doctrine which is so sorely needed today among Christians.

"I praise God for a book like this and I can heartily commend it, and trust it may have the widest of reading. May God continue to bless you in your great ministry for Him.

"Kindest regards.

"Cordially yours,

"David Otis Fuller."

These brethren join Dr. H. A. Ironside, Dr. Oswald J. Smith, Moody Monthly, Watchman Examiner, The Baptist Standard and other leading authorities in kind words. It is a large, cloth-bound book, 21 chapters, 328 large pages, only \$1.25. Order from The Sword of the Lord Publishers, Wheaton, Illinois. Four copies for \$5.00.

Dentist Quits Smoking



From Chattanooga, Tennessee, a friend writes, saying:

"I also want to tell you that I attended a cottage prayer meeting last evening. It was conducted by a fine young doctor. He is a dentist. He said he was a cigarette smoker but he went to hear you while you were here, bought your book on smoking, read it through and had never smoked another cigarette since. Praise His name for that!"

This booklet, "Tobacco," has 3 chapters as follows: I. Is Its Use a Sin? II. Cigarette Facts. This chapter is by Robert H. Fries. III. How to Quit; A Doctor and a Preacher Tell How. The size is 4 x 6 inches with a striking picture on the cover. The price 10c a copy, 18 for \$1.00, postpaid.

Many others who love the Lord will quit smoking when they read this striking and powerful booklet. Will you help get it out to thousands?

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God's Covenant with Abraham

(Continued from page two)

Israelites to Live Forever on this Earth

We have come to one great milestone of Bible teaching; the seed of Abraham, including Christ, are to possess and inhabit the land of Palestine forever. How many questions that answers! How many problems that settles! Where will Heaven be for Abraham? IN PALESTINE ON THIS EARTH! Heaven, for Abraham and his believing descendants, at least, will be on this earth.

Many other Scriptures throughout the Bible repeat God's promise to Israel about their land. For example, read the two following passages from Jeremiah. *"Then will I cause you to dwell in this place, in the land that I gave to your fathers, for ever and ever."* —Jer. 7:7.

"They said, Turn ye again now every one from his evil way, and from the evil of your doings, and dwell in the land that the Lord hath given unto you and to your fathers for ever and ever." —Jer. 25:5.

Not only did God give the land of Canaan to Abraham and his descendants, but He gave it to them "for ever and ever." The Bible by doubling the term makes the promise doubly sure. Jews are to live forever and ever on this earth in Palestine.

Actually, of course, if Heaven for Jews will be on earth, then Heaven for everybody will be on earth, as the Scripture makes plain later on. Here the promises are particularly to Abraham and his literal descendants. Saved Jews, children according to the promise, children of Abraham in both flesh and spirit are to inhabit the land of Palestine forever in a Heaven on earth.

I was taught as a child in Sunday School that at the second coming of Christ there would be one general resurrection of all the dead, saved and unsaved. I was taught that this planet would be burned up and destroyed and disappear. I was taught that there would be at that time one general judgment and that saved and unsaved would alike stand before God to be judged according to their works. In some mysterious way it was supposed that Christ would intervene in behalf of the Christians. Then the unsaved would be sent to Hell and the redeemed spirits would float around and sing and twang their harps in a golden city hanging in space in the "Beautiful Isle of Somewhere!" How far away from the plain Bible teaching that is!

I was taught in the Sunday School (and the Theological Seminary only strengthened the teaching) that if the meek were ever to inherit the earth, they would have to do it in this life. I was taught that all the promises to Israel really meant the church, and that the promises to Jerusalem and Mount Zion really meant Heaven! I was taught that that golden age when "they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks" (Isa. 2:4; Micah 4:3) and when "the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea" (Isa. 11:9), would be brought about by preaching the gospel, combined with schools, hospitals, good laws, peace treaties, inventions and the developments of modern science! I believed that, despite the evidences of my senses, my observation and the testimony of history and current events, until I began to study the prophetic teachings of the Bible.

Then I learned that God had promised to bring the Israelites back to their land, to possess it forever, that Heaven, then, must be on this earth.

If God Set Out to Destroy this World

Let us imagine that to please all our postmillennial friends, or those of whatever description who have largely ignored the prophetic portions of the Bible, the Lord should prepare to burn up and utterly destroy this planet or earth. Let us suppose that, as so many say, the prophecies are highly figurative anyway and that to study and teach or preach them is largely speculation and so the Lord prepares to strike the match, or say the word that will utterly destroy this whole planet. What a multitude is gathered, let us imagine,

to behold that great event. But wait! I see an old man who walks like a king who comes forward to interrupt the ceremony. His face has the look of authority and his voice is bold as he cries out, "Wait, Lord, you cannot destroy my property."

I can imagine the Lord might say, "This man is a friend of mine; let us hear what he has to say. Speak on, Friend, tell the people. What is thy name? To what possession do you refer? What title do you hold to the property?"

"My name," says the venerable patriarch, "is Abraham! From Ur of the Chaldees I came at Thy command. To Canaan I came and the land thou didst give to me, teaching me by faith to know that I should afterward inherit it. To Issac and Jacob Thou didst make the same promises, and all our days, though rich in gold and silver, cattle and servants, we lived as sojourners and pilgrims in tents, patiently waiting until we should inherit and possess forever our own land. This scroll in my hand, Oh Lord God, is a written deed to the land of Canaan, called by name, and signed by Thyself. It is a warranty deed, guaranteeing to me and my faithful children after me—the children of promise—the possession of the land forever.

"You may burn up, if you will, the weeds and thorns and thistles. Destroy, if you will, all disease germs and insect pests, which have increased the curse on the land because of man's sin through the centuries. Oh Lord, you may shake down and burn the cities, for I look for another city which hath foundations whose builder and maker is God. The elements may melt with fervent heat, but the land is mine; to me Thou didst give it with the promise that I should inherit it with my seed. 'Shall not the God of all the earth do right?'

If God wanted to please the ignorant and the scoffers concerning His prophecies, how would He face Abraham? The deed which Abraham has is the Bible, the Word of God. There will come a time, says the Scriptures, when "the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up." (II Peter 3:10). But the same chapter explains that that will be a judgment like the flood. II Peter 3:6-7 says "Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished: but the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same

59 in 3 Weeks

(Continued from page one)

and the other at Palestine, Illinois — sent in signed decision slips, saying they trusted Christ as their Savior.

Evangelist Harold O. Horne of Spartanburg, South Carolina, who has two large radio broadcasts, has been sending out these booklets through his radio ministry. He sent us a decision slip from one of the booklets which had been signed by a girl in West Virginia and mailed in to him. We would like to enlist the cooperation of other radio preachers who would help us get out this booklet to those who want them to read.

Two *privates* — one at Camp Miles Standish, Massachusetts, and the other at Fort Dix, New Jersey — and a staff sergeant at Camp Young, California, sent in signed decision slips. A soldier's wife from New Jersey writes, "I have just finished reading your booklet on, 'What Must I Do to Be Saved?'" It helped me so much to read it. My husband is a soldier for Uncle Sam and the Lord, too. He got this booklet for me at the Morning Cheer here in Wrightstown. And I truly believe if these can be given out personally it will help so many." And then she had copied the decision slip and signed it,

word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men."

The world "perished" in the flood. The earth shall be "burned up" in a coming day of judgment. The present heavens or firmament will pass away, we are told, and all that fire can melt, will melt on this earth. But as the earth reappeared from the waters of the flood, to be restocked and repopulated and replanted, so in a much greater way, this planet, purified of pests, disease, and the marks of sin by the literal fire of God's wrath, will be planted again as the Garden of Eden.

This planet will never be entirely removed, can never cease to be. Psalms 104:5 says: "Who laid the foundations of the earth that it should not be removed for ever."

The fires of judgment will purge this earth, but it will not pass out of existence. It will remain to be the home of God's people through eternity. Canaan shall again be the possession of Abraham and his seed and at that time they shall possess it forever!

which says, "Realizing that I am a sinner and believing that Christ died for my sins, I here and now trust Him to be my personal Saviour, depending on Him to forgive all my sins, change my heart, and give me everlasting life as He promised to do. I am glad to confess Him as my Saviour and gladly mail this to let you know."

We praise God for the way that this little booklet is being used of the Lord. Many, many lost souls are being saved through its ministry. To date, over 900 have written, or others have written for them, saying they had trusted Christ as their own Saviour after reading it. And we know that you rejoice with us too.

Mr. A. C. Smith, a fine Christian man doing work among the prisoners at the State penitentiary at San Antonio, Texas, writes us that in the last five months 300 were saved in the Texas prison system. Of those, he said that eighty-five per cent were those who signed decision slips on the "What Must I Do to Be Saved" booklets which he has distributed there. That would mean that in the last five months, about 255 prisoners have signed the decision slips saying that they trusted Christ as their Saviour. Mr. Smith is doing independent work among these prisoners, and we are glad to supply him with these booklets for use in his work. Any Christians desiring to help Mr. Smith with his work in a financial way may address him as follows: Mr. A. C. Smith, P. O. Box No. 200, San Antonio, Texas.

We want to get this booklet out to all who will read it, and we pray that God will help us, this year, to get out hundreds of thousands of copies to the unsaved. We want to reach men in the jails and prisons, sick people in the hospitals, soldiers, sailors and marines, and all others who will read this message. Will you help us? We need the names of Christian men in the service, Army and Navy chaplains, radio preachers, etc., so that we can write them and enlist their cooperation in getting out this message of salvation. Will you send us the names of any of these you might know?

If you would like to have a copy of this little booklet, "What Must I Do to Be Saved," for yourself or for a friend, you may have it, free, by writing us. Or, if you will use them only to those who want them and will read them, you may write for as many as you can use. They cost us about \$1.00 a hundred for

printing, mailing, etc., in case any want to help on the expenses in getting out this booklet. The booklet is printed on tinted paper in brown ink, has a pictured cover, is 24 pages in length, and has a decision slip on the last page. Write today to Sword of the Lord Publishers, 145 North Hale Street, Wheaton, Illinois.

Other Salvation Letters

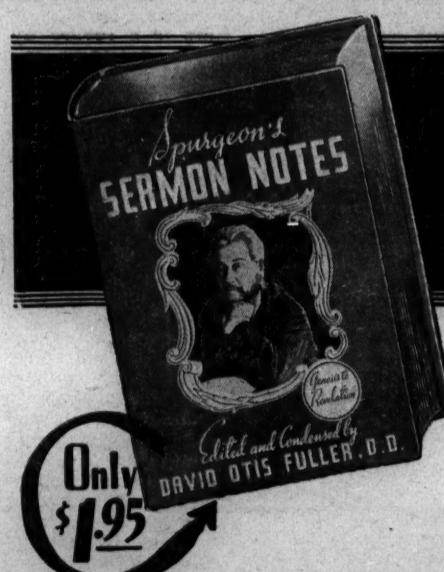
We have received letters from those who have been saved through some of Dr. Rice's other books and sermons, too. A Christian woman from Kansas writes that her husband, while sick in bed, read the book on "Bible Facts About Heaven," and she says, "I had prayed so much that he would be converted, but it took a serious illness to make him realize his lost condition." He now reads the Bible and prays.

From C—E—H— in Sacramento, California, we received a letter in which he said, "I have read your sermon, 'The Criminal Who Wanted Another Chance.' I know that I too am a sinner. I want another chance. I want forgiveness and salvation. So here and now, this very moment, I turn myself to Jesus, I call on Him for forgiveness, and I trust Him to save me today. I believe He does forgive me as He promised and by God's grace I will try to live for Him."

Last week we told of a reader in Delaware who sent us a signed decision slip after reading in "The Sword" Dr. Rice's sermon, "When God Loses His Patience."

Good word has come to the office too of the results of some of the editor's books and booklets given out over the "Back to the Bible Broadcast" in Lincoln, Nebraska, during his recent radio revival campaign there. Rev. Theodore Epp, the director of this broadcast, writes, "The salvation testimonies and consecration testimonies are coming in now heavier than ever before. The sermons, and also the booklets, etc., that have been sent out, are certainly doing good work, and God is blessing. We appreciate so much what the Lord has done for us and for our audience through you."

Pray for this work, won't you, that God will continue to bless and many more will be saved through the literature that goes out each week. And if you can help us in getting out the booklet on "What Must I Do to Be Saved," do not forget to write us for as many copies as you need. We want to get the gospel out.



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